

TRB

Confabulation



Read Me

Read Me

This is **Read Me**, the publication that tells you everything you really need to know to have a good time at Confabulation. Please read it before asking any of us any questions. We know this is a futile request, but we keep saying it anyway. Hang on to this; if you do lose it, replacements are available for 50p from registration.

The information in **Read Me** was correct when we went to press, but inevitably there will be some changes; watch the newsletter for these.

If, after reading this, you have any queries, ask at Ops. The Ops room is on the second floor; follow the signs.

The convention is happening in the Britannia's conference facilities. There will be non-convention members in the hotel at all times, and we would ask you to be considerate when in the public areas of the hotel (the ground floor and basement).

Badges

Please wear your membership badge at *all times*. If you lose it, see Ops. We reserve the right not to replace lost badges; a charge for replacement will be made.

Posters

These may be affixed to walls and doors, *in the convention area only*, using blutac only. Absolutely no sellotape.

Emergencies

In the event of an emergency, contact the Ops room.

Awards

There will be ballot boxes for the BSFA awards and the Doc Weir award on registration. Don't forget to vote.

Con Desks

Will be in the Royal Lounge; if you need one see Ops. Note that these cannot be secured.

Day memberships

Are valid until 10am on the day after issue.

Profits

Confabulation is a non-profit making organisation. Any profit remaining after the bar closes on Monday night will be distributed to a variety of fannish and/or charitable good causes. These will include the RNIB Talking Books.

Confabulation glasses

If you break your Drink Me, a replacement will be £2, subject to availability. Surplus glasses (if any) will be sold on Monday afternoon at the same price.

Dealers' Room

Friday	2pm to 6pm
Saturday	10am to 6pm
Sunday	10am to 6pm
Monday	10am to 2pm

Please note that you cannot take food or drinks into the dealers' room unless you are a dealer.

Registration

Friday	10:00 - 20:00
Saturday	10:00 - 16:00
Sunday	10:00 - 14:00
Monday	10:00 - 12:00

Hotel food and drink

Convention food will be served at the following times and places

Thursday		
	7-10pm	opposite the bar
Friday/Saturday		
	12-3pm	in Jenny's
	6-10pm	opposite the bar
Sunday		
	12-3pm	opposite the bar
	6-10pm	opposite the bar
Monday		
	12-3pm	in Jenny's
	6-9pm	opposite the bar

The Overstuffed Pizza serves pizza and pasta; everything is cooked to order so there may be a delay at busy times. It's open 12 noon to 11pm, except till 1am on Friday and Saturday.

Jenny's does a carvery at a set price. It's open 6:30 to 10pm, and for Sunday lunch.

Cromptons does posh French food, 7 to 10pm, not on Sunday.

Art Show

Friday	2pm to 6pm
Saturday	10am to 6pm
Sunday	10am to 2pm

Please note that the art show will close two hours before the art auction, and will not reopen (as many of the pictures will have been sold). No smoking, food, drinks or photography are allowed in the art show.

Hotel problems

If you have any unresolvable problems with the hotel, contact Ops, who will contact our hotel liaison team for you.

General note

The hotel requires either payment in advance or a credit card impression. This is a requirement of the chain and we can't do anything about it. This does not preclude giving an impression and then settling with cash or cheque at the end of the convention. Check out is 12 noon.

Breakfast

will be served in Jenny's Restaurant from 7am till 10:30am daily. The hotel has a computerised system for checking room numbers. If you don't have a room then breakfast can be purchased at the restaurant.

Corkage

Corkage rates are available; if you wish to bring food and drink in from outside please see Ops to arrange this.

Heavy handed warning

Hotels make money by selling accommodation, food and drink. Please do not attempt to bypass this procedure or enter into competition with them. The convention will not support you in the event you get caught.

Health Club

If you are staying in the hotel, or are with someone who is staying in the hotel, you can use the health club and swimming pool for a charge of £2.50 per day.

Newsletter

The newsletter will be produced by Alasdair Hepburn and Allison Ewing, with assistance from Calum. It should contain programme changes and important information, but will actually have dubious gossip and entirely too many footnotes. Submissions for the newsletter should be dropped off at Ops.

Book Auction

If you have books to be auctioned, please give them to Ops, labelled **clearly** with the name of the seller, and where the money should go; the seller, good cause (eg RNIB, TAFF, GUFF) or elsewhere. The con will take a 10% commission for non-charity items.

Masquerade

If you wish to take part in the Masquerade, please tell Ops, and draw attention to any special technical requirements. Please attend the rehearsal on Sunday morning.

Smoking

We strongly discourage smoking in the programme halls. Participants may smoke. Non-participants who simply must have a cigarette should go to the marked area at the back. In workshops and filk sessions smoking is at the discretion of the organiser. There is no smoking in the art show, and no smoking in the dealers' room unless you are a dealer.

Half of the Royal Lounge is smoking; look for the signs. We cannot actually allow smoking at the bar area as it is a thoroughfare. Smoking is permitted in the public areas of the hotel (ground floor and basement) subject to the hotel's own restrictions.

Call for gophers

All conventions use a vast army of unpaid help. No experience necessary; come along to the Ops room and discover the wacky world of gophering.

Weapons Policy

No real weapons under any circumstances. No realistic replica weapons except as part of a masquerade costume. No projectile weapons of any kind.

The committee may confiscate anything, for any reason, at any time.

Workshops

'Anybody who talks about workshops who isn't involved in light engineering is a pillock'
—Alexei Sayle.

Confabulation has an extensive workshop programme.

Sewing Room

This is a workshop with a sewing machine suitable for costuming and similar pursuits; look out on the programme for things going on here. It will be on the 12th floor; follow the signs.

Games Room

Confabulation has a games room, organised by Bill Ray. It will also be on the 12th floor.

The Convention Bar

The convention bar is on the first floor in the central area. This is the only bar which has real ale and the only bar with our discounted prices for drinks. We have a limited amount of real ale available, as the hotel doesn't normally sell it; when it runs out, there will not be any more. The hotel reserves the right to use its own glasses.

There are bars on the ground floor of the hotel which will be open to the public; these will be selling at normal hotel prices. The convention bar will stay open as long as there are people buying drinks. Sandwiches, hot drinks and ice creams will be available whenever the bar is open.

Eating out

Contrary to rumour, there are a number of restaurants and pubs near the hotel which will be open over Easter. We rely on the convention membership to put reviews in the newsletter, but **Prides** on Marsh Wall has a good reputation, and the various **Friends** Chinese restaurants in Limehouse are reliable.

Supermarkets

The most accessible supermarket to the convention is the Isle of Dogs Asda at 151 East Ferry Road. Buses going past the hotel in the direction of South Quay almost all end up at the supermarket. Opening hours are as follows:

Mon-Thurs	9-8
Friday	9-9
Saturday	8.30-8
Sunday	10-4

There is also a Tesco Metro in the Cabot Square shopping Centre under Canary Wharf. This will only be open on Friday and Saturday.

Chemists

The nearest chemists are at Asda (see above) and Canary Wharf (closed Sunday and Monday)

Cashpoints

There is a Nat West opposite the hotel and Abbey/Midland cash machines in South Quay. A little further east, there is a Lloyds cashpoint at Harbour Exchange. There are also some cashpoints at Asda (see above).

In the basement of the Cabot Square (Canary Wharf) shopping complex are Lloyds, Nat-West, Nationwide and Co-Op cash machines which should be accessible throughout the Easter period.

Chocolate Shop

There is a branch of Maxwell and Kennedy in Cabot Square shopping centre which will be open on Friday and Saturday.

Churches

There are the following churches in the area:

C of E - Christ and St Johns, Manchester Road (0171-987-1915)

Roman Catholic - St Edmunds, Westferry Road (0171-987-4114)

Methodist - St Georges, Cable Street (0171-790-4085)

Newsagents

Try either Asda (see above) or Canary Wharf.

Phoneday

Just a reminder that over Easter all (or almost all) the telephone numbers in the UK will be changing.

DLR

Despite absolutely categorical assurances from the Docklands Development Corporation that the Docklands Light Railway would be running over Easter... the DLR stops running at about midnight on Thursday and doesn't start again until Tuesday. Please direct all flames, insults and brickbats in the direction of the DDC.

The replacement bus service (D8/D9) will be running throughout Easter and stops right outside the hotel.

Morris dancing

We're hoping to arrange a performance from Liberty Morris (the world's only biker Morris team) around lunchtime on Saturday. Please see the newsletter for more details.

FRIDAY

	MAIN	ALTERNATIVE	WORKSHOP	OTHER
2:00 PM	Opening Ceremony			
3:00 PM	The Future of SF	Taxonomy Round 1	Belly-Dancing Workshop	
4:00 PM	Moose TV	Author Readings	Songwriting Workshop	Make Your Own Juggling Gear
5:00 PM		Intersection Comedy		
6:00 PM	The Sex Life of the Moose			
7:00 PM	GoH Interview: Roger Robinson	Debate		
8:00 PM	(Setup)	...And Then the World		World's Biggest Twister
9:00 PM	Elaine Samuels Sings Filk Concert	[Setup]		
10:00 PM		Boston in '98 Party		
11:00 PM			Ladies from Hell Party	
12:00 AM		Filk Night (all night)		

10 PM - 1 AM OPS

7 PM ATL - VDE 11 0534

Friday

2:00 PM Main Programme

Opening Ceremony

Confabulation officially begins.

3:00 PM Main Programme

The Future of SF

It is over ten years since the emergence of cyberpunk. What will be the next big trend in SF? David G. Hartwell, Diane Duane, Colin Greenland and Maureen Speller look into their crystal balls.

3:00 PM Alternative Programme

Taxonomy Round 1

Putting the class back into quizzes. A quiz for four teams devised and presented by Peter Wareham and Gwen Funnell.

3:00 PM Workshop

Belly-Dancing Workshop

Learn to undulate with the best of them. Get a better price in the slave auction. Gael Courtney sets a bad example.

4:00 PM Main Programme

Moose TV

Moose TV is a loosely programmed magazine item - nothing will last longer than ten minutes, so you can drop in and out as takes your fancy. This session is presented by Geoff Ryman and Jackie McRobert and produced by Caroline Mullan.

4:00 PM Alternative Programme

Author Readings

Authors read from their works. A timetable will be published at the con.

4:30 PM Workshop

Songwriting Workshop

A chance for all filkers to brush up on their songwriting skills. Elaine Samuels is the tutor.

4:30 PM Sewing Room

Make Your Own Juggling Gear

If you want to learn to juggle but don't have any beanbags, come and make your own before the Juggling Workshop. Sewing machine oversewn by Michael Bernardi.

5:30 PM Alternative Programme

Intersection Comedy

Gary Stratmann entertains.

6:00 PM Main Programme

The Sex Life of the Moose

Jack Cohen, fandom's premier expert on human and animal reproduction, tells us rather more than we ever thought possible about the sex life of the convention mascot.

7:00 PM Main Programme

GoH Interview: Roger Robinson

Roger Robinson, our fan Guest of Honour, talks to Sue Mason about his life in fandom.

7:00 PM Alternative Programme

Debate

A formal debate on the motion 'This house believes that fanzines are the best form of fanish communication', with Mic Rogers as Speaker of the House.

8:00 PM *Sundringsham* (next to Main Programme)

World's Biggest Twister

The Evolution committee, a twisted bunch if ever we saw one, present the world's biggest game of Twister (allegedly), dislocating the parts that other games cannot reach. Your chance to make some interesting new friends, and invade their personal space.

8:30 PM Alternative Programme

...And Then the World

Running a Worldcon is a traumatic business. What are the pitfalls, and how do you survive. Some old hands, some current victims and an escapee discuss.

9:00 PM Main Programme

Elaine Samuels Sings

Elaine Samuels is a notable singer/songwriter working with science fiction and fantasy themes.

9:30 PM Main Programme

Filk Concert

The assembled talents of filk fandom entertain the convention. Valerie Housden has the thankless task of keeping order.

10:00 PM Alternative Programme

Boston in 98 Party

The 1998 Boston Worldcon bid tries to get your support by plying you with beer. Sounds like a winner to us.

10:30 PM Workshop

Ladies From Hell Party

The Intersection female irregulars (who are highly irregular!) invite

you to join the con. Other parties may lure you with booze, but these sirens are more likely to use blunt instruments.

12:00 AM Alternative Programme

Filk Night

The music continues, until everyone is unconscious or hoarse.

10 AM - 1 PM OPS

SATURDAY

	MAIN	ALTERNATIVE	WORKSHOP	OTHER
10:00 AM	Welcome to East London	Mini-Gripe Session		
11:00 AM	Babylon 5 As Science Fiction	Taxonomy Round 2	Friends of Foundation AGM	Masquerade Costume Workshop (until 16:00)
12:00 PM	Dave Langford Reading			Bubble Blowing Workshop
1:00 PM	Seventeenth Century Reading	Fanzine Panel	Do It Yourself Galactic Empire	Sensuality Revisited
2:00 PM	Schizoid-Faq Why Do Scientists Hate SF?	BSFA AGM (Members Only)		
3:00 PM	(Setup)	Intersection Fan Fair		
4:00 PM	GoH Interview: Lois McMaster Bujold			
5:00 PM	(Setup) A Good Read	Book Auction	What Do You Do When the Universal Translator Breaks Down?	Juggling Workshop
6:00 PM	Interview: Jeff Noon		Creed Signing	
7:00 PM	Cybermaze Games II	Slave Auction		
8:00 PM	The City in SF	Attitude Live		
9:00 PM	(Setup)	Fan Fund Auction		
10:00 PM	Intersection Ceilidh	Baltimore in 98 Party		
11:00 PM				
12:00 AM		Video Night (all night)		
1:00 AM				

Saturday

10:00 AM Main Programme

Welcome to East London

If you decide to set foot outside the hotel during the weekend, what is there to do and see? Fiona Anderson, Steven Cain and Paul Dorrner, all locals, elucidate.

10:00 AM Alternative Programme

Mini-Gripe Session

A common response to gripe sessions is, 'If only you'd told us earlier, we could have done something about it'. So come along and tell us earlier.

11:00 AM Main Programme

Babylon 5 As Science Fiction

Babylon 5 has gained considerable popularity with SF fans, including many who aren't normally associated with media fandom. Pat McMurray, Maureen Speller, Simon Bisson, Andrew Adams and Eddie Cochrane discuss the show and its creative process.

11:00 AM Alternative Programme

Taxonomy Round 2

As for Round 1.

11:00 AM Workshop

Friends of Foundation AGM

Friends of Foundation AGM. All welcome.

11:00 AM Sewing Room

Masquerade Costume Workshop

Your last chance to make a costume for the Masquerade. Remember, there is a prize for the best impromptu costume. Jaïne Weddell and Teddy provide materials, assistance and inspiration.

12:00 PM Main Programme

Dave Langford Reading

Dave Langford reads a critical article originally published in *New Worlds*, in his own inimitable style.

12:00 PM Outdoors

Bubble-Blowing Workshop

This item will be held outdoors, but meet in Workshop room first. Cancelled if rain or winds. Lissa Alcock is the Queen of Winds.

1:00 PM Main Programme

Seventeenth Century Schizoid Fan

Andy Sawyer, Science Fiction Foundation Librarian, talks about seventeenth century SF and fandom, not entirely seriously.

1:00 PM Alternative Programme

Fanzine Panel

Pam Wells, Bridget Hardcastle, Jilly Reed, and an empty chair... Come along and talk about fanzines, ask questions about fanzines, and find out why that fourth chair is empty...

1:00 PM Workshop

Do It Yourself Galactic Empire

The Second Empire needs YOU. Your decisions and choices can affect the direction of thousands of star systems, hundreds of planets, millions of lives. Without you, the ages of barbarism will surely come. Ken & Jo Walton preside.

1:00 PM Sandingham (next to Main Programme)

Sensuality Revisited

Bobby MacLaughlin teaches you to get in touch with your body. Numbers may be limited.

2:00 PM Main Programme

Why Do Scientists Hate SF?

No, they don't really. But some common features of SF get on scientists' nerves. We ask Julian Headlong, Stephen Baxter, John Bray and Paddy Leahy what and why.

2:00 PM Alternative Programme

BSFA AGM

The AGM of the British Science Fiction Association. This item is open to BSFA members only.

3:00 PM Alternative Programme

Intersection Fan Fair

The Intersection Fan Fair team present their work to date.

3:30 PM Main Programme

GoH Interview: Lois McMaster Bujold

Our US Guest of Honour, Lois McMaster Bujold, is interviewed by Peter Morwood.

4:30 PM Alternative Programme

Book Auction

The rare, the esoteric and the arcane are all auctioned by Roger Robinson and Brian Ameringer.

4:30 PM Workshop

What Do You Do When the Universal Translator Breaks Down?

How could communication take place without the handy but implausible Universal Translator? Colin Fine gives you the chance to role-play such a situation.

5:00 PM Main Programme

A Good Read

Paul Kincaid, Jackie Duckhawk and Andrew Adams discuss *China Mountain Zhong* by Maureen F. McHugh, *Only Forward* by Michael Marshall Smith and *Tigana* by Guy Gavriel Kay.

5:00 PM Sandingham (next to Main Programme)

Juggling Workshop

Learn to juggle. Amaze your ornaments. Destroy your ornaments. Steven Cain, Eira Latham and Michael Bernardi show you how.

6:00 PM Main Programme

Interview: Jeff Noon

Jeff Noon, author of the Arthur C. Clarke award winning novel *Vurt*, talks to David V. Barrett about his work.

6:30 PM Workshop

Creed Signing

A signing session for the new Creed dark fantasy imprint, with a number of authors of the first books from the new line.

7:00 PM Main Programme

Overmaze Games II

Video games have developed since last year... your chance to come along and get involved in Live-Action Doom. David B. Wake this organises the proceedings.

7:00 PM Alternative Programme

Slave Auction

Your chance to buy a few fans. The committee will be there to pick up some extra gophers. Lissa Alcock is the guilty party, aided and abetted by Roger Robinson as the auctioneer.

8:00 PM Main Programme

The City in SF

SF is an urban genre, and the city is a potent image in many of its greatest works, from *Trantor* to *Ankh-Morpork*. Alex Stewart, Lois McMaster Bujold and Mary Gentle explore the image of the city in science fiction, with particular reference to London.

8:00 PM Alternative Programme

Attitude Live

You've heard of Attitude: the Fanzine. You've heard of Attitude: the Convention. But here, for one showing only, is Attitude Live. Presented by Michael Abbott, John Dailman and Pam Wells.

9:00 PM Alternative Programme

Fan Fund Auction

Abigail Frost and Joseph Nicholas auction for various fan funds.

9:30 PM Main Programme

Intersection Cellidh

Intersection, this year's World Science Fiction Convention, is in Glasgow. They'll be hosting a cellidh, with an Irish band called Western Lilt. Watch Martin Easterbrook dance the Sworddance.

10:00 PM Alternative Programme

Baltimore in '98 Pt 1

The Baltimore bid for the 1998 Worldcon has its chance to buy your vote by playing you with alcohol. Still sounds like a good idea to us.

12:30 AM Alternative Programme

Video Night

A selection of videos picked by Dave Lally.

SUNDAY

	MAIN	ALTERNATIVE	WORKSHOP	OTHER
10:00 AM		Arthur C. Clarke's Degree Ceremony		
11:00 AM	Micromachines - The State of the Art	Book Auction		Masquerade Registration & Rehearsal
12:00 PM	The Liar's Guide to Getting Published		Do It Yourself Galactic Empire	
1:00 PM	(Setup)			
2:00 PM	1997 Bidding Session	Forgotten Futures	Chainmail Workshop	
3:00 PM	Bob Shaw's Serious Scientific GoH Speech			
4:00 PM	(Setup)	Art Auction	Singing & Harmony Workshop	
5:00 PM	Moose TV			
6:00 PM	... You Can Edit That Bit Out Later, Can't You?		Aromatherapy Workshop	
7:00 PM	(Setup)	Turkey Reading		
8:00 PM	Masquerade & Award Ceremony			
9:00 PM				
10:00 PM				
11:00 PM	(Setup)	Boston in 1999/2001 Party	Storytelling	
12:00 AM	I'm Sorry, I Haven't A Clue			
		Anime Night (all night)		

Sunday

10:00 AM Main Programme

Live-In
Confabulation is a relaxed Eastercon, so rather than start the programme on Sunday at the ungodly hour of 10 in the morning we decided to give you all an extra hour in bed.

10:00 AM Alternative Programme

Arthur C. Clarke's Degree Ceremony
We present a video recording of the ceremony earlier this year at which Arthur C. Clarke was awarded an honorary degree by the University of Liverpool. Appropriately, the degree was conferred by satellite link to Clarke in Sri Lanka.

11:00 AM Main Programme

Micromachines - The State of the Art
Bridget Hardcastle, who studies silicon micromachines, gives a talk the current state of the art. Ignore the hype - find out what's really feasible.

11:00 AM Alternative Programme

Book Auction
Spend the rest of your money on more books - you know it makes sense. Brian Ameringen and Roger Robinson are still auctioning, if they've not gone hoarse.

11:00 AM Sandringham (next to Main Programme)

Masquerade Registration & Rehearsal
Sign up now for the Masquerade, and rehearse your presentation. Strictly participants only - no spectators please.

12:00 PM Main Programme

The Liar's Guide to Getting Published
The question many aspiring authors want answered above all is 'How do I get published?'. David V. Barrett, Lois McMaster Bujold, Liz Sourbut and Michael Abbott instead offer advice on how not to get published.

12:00 PM Workshop

Do It Yourself Galactic Empire
Continued from Saturday

1:30 PM Main Programme

1997 Bidding Session
The selection of the 1997 Eastercon. We are aware of one bid, but would welcome others.

1:30 PM Workshop

Chainmail Workshop
Chainmail manufacture for beginners, with Elise Mann.

2:00 PM Alternative Programme

Forgotten Futures
Marcus Rowland discusses his shareware Victorian scientific romance role-playing system, and launches Forgotten Futures 3.

3:00 PM Main Programme

Bob Shaw's Serious Scientific Go! Speech
Our UK Guest of Honour, Bob Shaw, gives one of his justly famous Serious Scientific Talks. We aren't going to plug this here, as everyone will be there anyway, and for good reason.

4:00 PM Alternative Programme

Art Auction
Chris Morgan and Rog Peyton auction items from the Art Show.

4:00 PM Workshop

Singing & Harmony Workshop
Elaine Samuels attempts to instruct flunkers in the rudiments of harmony, an uphill task.

4:30 PM Main Programme

Moose TV
Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the con hall... This session is presented by Roger Robinson and Jackie Grider-Andrew and produced by Steven Cain.

6:30 PM Main Programme

...You Can Edit That Bit Out Later, Can't You?
A talk by Julian Headlong on the beneficial role played by editing in nature - why can SF authors not always do likewise?

6:30 PM Workshop

Aromatherapy Workshop
Jill Bradley introduces the rudiments of aromatherapy. You too can experience olfactory ecstasy.

7:00 PM Alternative Programme

Turkey Reading
This turkey reading will be kicked off by Andy Sawyer with some truly awful stuff dredged from the bowels of the Science Fiction Foundation. Come and pay to make him stop, or bring along a few stinkers of your own. All proceeds to Friends of Foundation.

8:30 PM Main Programme

Masquerade & Awards Ceremony
The traditional Eastercon Masquerade. This year, we will present the awards that are normally given at the Eastercon directly following the Masquerade, while the costumes are being judged. The Masquerade is presented by Anne Page and judged by Freda Warrington, Gytha North and Chris Morgan. Bob Shaw acts as Master of Ceremonies for the awards.

10:30 PM Alternative Programme

Boston in 1999/2001 Party
A joint bid party for the Worldcon bids for Boston (Mass.) in 2001 and Boston (Lincolnshire) in 1999. We imagine this one involves alcohol as well, which makes Confabulation a three-ply convention.

10:30 PM Workshop

Storytelling
A traditional storytelling, organised by Richard Winslade and Marion Pitman.

11:00 PM Main Programme

I'm Sorry, I Haven't A Clue
That's not necessarily what this panel game is called, but it's what John and Eve Harvey said when we asked them for the name of the programme item.

12:00 AM Main Programme

Phone Phreaking
In an unparalleled act of phone phreaking, Confabulation simultaneously changes every phone number in the UK. We may claim that more numbers are needed, but actually we're just doing it for the hell of it.

12:00 AM Alternative Programme

Anime Night
Late night anime for the depraved and the insomniac, with tapes provided by Dave Row.

MONDAY

	MAIN	ALTERNATIVE	WORKSHOP	OTHER
10:00 AM				
11:00 AM	Danny Flynn	Gripe Session	Do It Yourself Galactic Empire	Filt Workshop (sic)
12:00 PM	Taxonomy Final	The Mexican Hat		
1:00 PM	Life in the Mainstream	Intersection Programme Presentation		
2:00 PM	Speech: Peter Morwood	Author Readings		
3:00 PM	Sucking Growth Fandom			
4:00 PM	Closing Ceremony			
5:00 PM	The Superhighway Code			
6:00 PM				
7:00 PM				
8:00 PM				
9:00 PM				
10:00 PM				
11:00 PM				
12:00 AM				Dead Moose Party

4-7 PM OPS

Monday

11:00 AM Main Programme

Danny Flynn

Danny Flynn, one of Britain's most successful SF artists with over 100 book covers to his name, talks about his work.

11:00 AM Alternative Programme

Gripe Session

Come and tell us what we did wrong and we'll promise never to run an Eastercon again.

11:00 AM Workshop

Do It Yourself Galactic Empire

Continued from Sunday

11:00 AM Saving Room

Filt Workshop

Come and produce a square for the Intersection filr. What is a filr? You may well ask, and there's only one way to find out.

12:00 PM Main Programme

Taxonomy Final

The final of Taxonomy. See Round 1 on Friday for more details.

12:00 PM Alternative Programme

The Mexican Hat

Pam Wells, Rhodri James, Christina Lake, Martin Tudor and Greg Pickersgill present the current status of the Mexican Hat, launch their first newsletter, encourage discussion and answer questions, and then pass round the original Mexican Hat for contributions.

1:00 PM Main Programme

Life in the Mainstream

SF now has a dominant and respectable role in popular culture. What effect has this had on the genre, and what will take its place as an intellectually subversive art form? Bridget Hardcastle moderates a panel including John Brunner and Caroline Mullan.

1:00 PM Alternative Programme

Intersection Programme Presentation

The Intersection programme team present the current state of the programme.

2:00 PM Main Programme

Speeches Peter Morwood

Well-known author, bon viveur and moral degenerate Peter Morwood talks about his career, and provides sound effects.

2:00 PM Alternative Programme

Author Readings

More authors reading extracts from their work.

3:00 PM Main Programme

Sucking Growth Fandom

It has been suggested that media, gaming and other non-literary forms of fandom are a sucking growth on the face of 'real' SF fandom. Martin Tudor, Michael Abbott, Greg Pickersgill, Pat Silver and Ian Sorensen discuss this concept.

4:00 PM Main Programme

Closing Ceremony

The committee heave a vast sigh of relief and vow never to do it again. Anyone who mentions running a Worldcon next time is taken out and shot.

5:00 PM Main Programme

The Superhighway Code

Guaranteed not to be tweeby. How can you avoid getting mown down by the juggernauts in the fast lane of technology? Some experienced net surfers and some comparative novices tell you how.

8:00 PM Lounge and Bar

Dead Moose Party

The traditional dead dog party gets a new deceased mammal, and is sponsored by Evolution, to whom we gratefully hand over the Eastercon flame and a rather tatty pair of antlers.

What to do in Docklands

Some think Boudicca had the right idea when she took a day trip to London in 61AD (razing it to the ground). I hope this guide will encourage Confabulation members to take a more relaxed approach.

Don't be paranoid, but do be careful

By the lights of many world capitals, London is dead safe. Crime rates in Docklands are low. But it never hurts to avoid unnecessary risk. City-dwellers will know the drill:

- don't travel through run-down areas if you can help it
- make appropriate use of public transport
- use maps to avoid getting lost, but try not to make a display of map-reading
- in fact, try not to make any obvious 'I am a tourist' display
- travel in company whenever you can

All the above are much more important during the hours of darkness.

In and around the Convention

Why make a special effort when you can do perfectly well just attending the con? From the comfort of the Royal Lounge gaze up at One Canada Square, the towering form many people think is Canary Wharf. Upper floors of the hotel command panoramic views of the Isle of Dogs, ideological heart of Docklands. You can also absorb the Docklands ambience travelling to and from the con.

You may however feel the need to escape for a while. My favourite options would be pottering about near the hotel, or going to

Greenwich or Shad Thames. This guide details a few points of interest, generally accessible by DLR replacement buses and/or a little shoe leather. More ideas are available from the London Docklands Visitor Centre in Limeharbour, which is open daily.

The Isle of Dogs

In the immediate vicinity of the International are some of the crassest buildings in London. Also some of the architectural highlights. Nearby you can experience:

- The Cesar Pelli Tower, on Canary Wharf, the tallest building in the UK, second in Europe
- Cascades, on Westferry Road, almost directly west of the con hotel
- the Storm Water Pumping Station, at the easternmost end of Marsh Wall
- the Central Enterprise Zone. As you walk among the high-tech sheds, you may decide that you have encountered an alien habitat, with non-human design values. You may be right.

Personally, I find 'the zone' quite pleasant on a sunny day. Also the residential and shopping developments across Millwall Dock. The run-down areas directly south of the con hotel are less edifying. Don't be paranoid, but do be careful...

The East End

Not normally thought of as a tourist destination, the East End has its attractions. Bits are rather rundown. Be streetwise after dark. If eating out in the evening, you may want to take a taxi home.

Limehouse

London's original Chinatown, considered dangerous and exotic at the turn of the century (indeed, Dorian Gray bought his opium here). Subjected to airborne architectural reform during the 1940's, little of the

oriental character survives. A number of (mostly good) Cantonese restaurants remain.

Some fans may have read work by slipstream author Peter Ackroyd. In *Hawksmoor*, he makes dark conjectures about this builder of bold and bizarre churches. St Annes Linehouse is one of six Hawksmoor churches in East London, and is notable for the pyramid in the churchyard, inscribed with masonic symbols. Perhaps not worth a special visit, but if you are passing by then worth a look.

Wapping

Gaze at Fortress Wapping, London outpost of News International, as you take the bus back to the City. Nearby, St George in the East is another Hawksmoor creation: damaged in the war, a tiny modern church now nestles within.

Whitechapel

You may not have heard of the Whitechapel murders, but you will have heard of Jack the Ripper.

You can opt for Ripper guided tours and theme pub memorabilia, but alternative attractions include:

- Bloom's, a noted kosher restaurant
- Brick Lane, heart of the Bengali community, with numerous Indian restaurants, some of which are very good indeed. There is also a Sunday market of long standing (till 2pm).

Spitalfields

Petticoat Lane has been London's most famous Sunday market for more than two hundred years. Renamed Middlesex Street in the 1830s to avoid the mention of ladies' underwear, it sells a lot more than just petticoats.

In and on the borders of the City

Attractions include:

St Katherine's Dock: marina and shopping

complex. A prototype Docklands development dating from the 70s. Sympathetic conversion of Victorian warehouses balanced by ugly new building.

The Tower of London. Read about this well-preserved mediæval fortress in a guide book. Some other time. I would only recommend visiting this tourist honeypot on a rainy winter's day in the middle of a tube strike.

You can walk across **Tower Bridge** for free; on the south side you might go east to visit **Shad Thames/Butler's Wharf** a relatively sensitive warehouse conversion. The genuine Dickensian atmosphere became the backdrop for the filming of *The Elephant Man*. Very much the best of the bunch.

The other side of the Thames

Greenwich

During the day, the **Greenwich Foot Tunnel** offers easy access to one of London's most pleasant areas. Historic attractions, good places to eat, interesting shopping and a measure of rural charm. After 10.30 pm they turn the lifts off in the foot tunnel and stop manning it. Deep stairs and lonely tunnels aren't my idea of fun, and you may wish to take a taxi if you're returning late at night (£££). Public transport back is slightly fiddly.

Woolwich

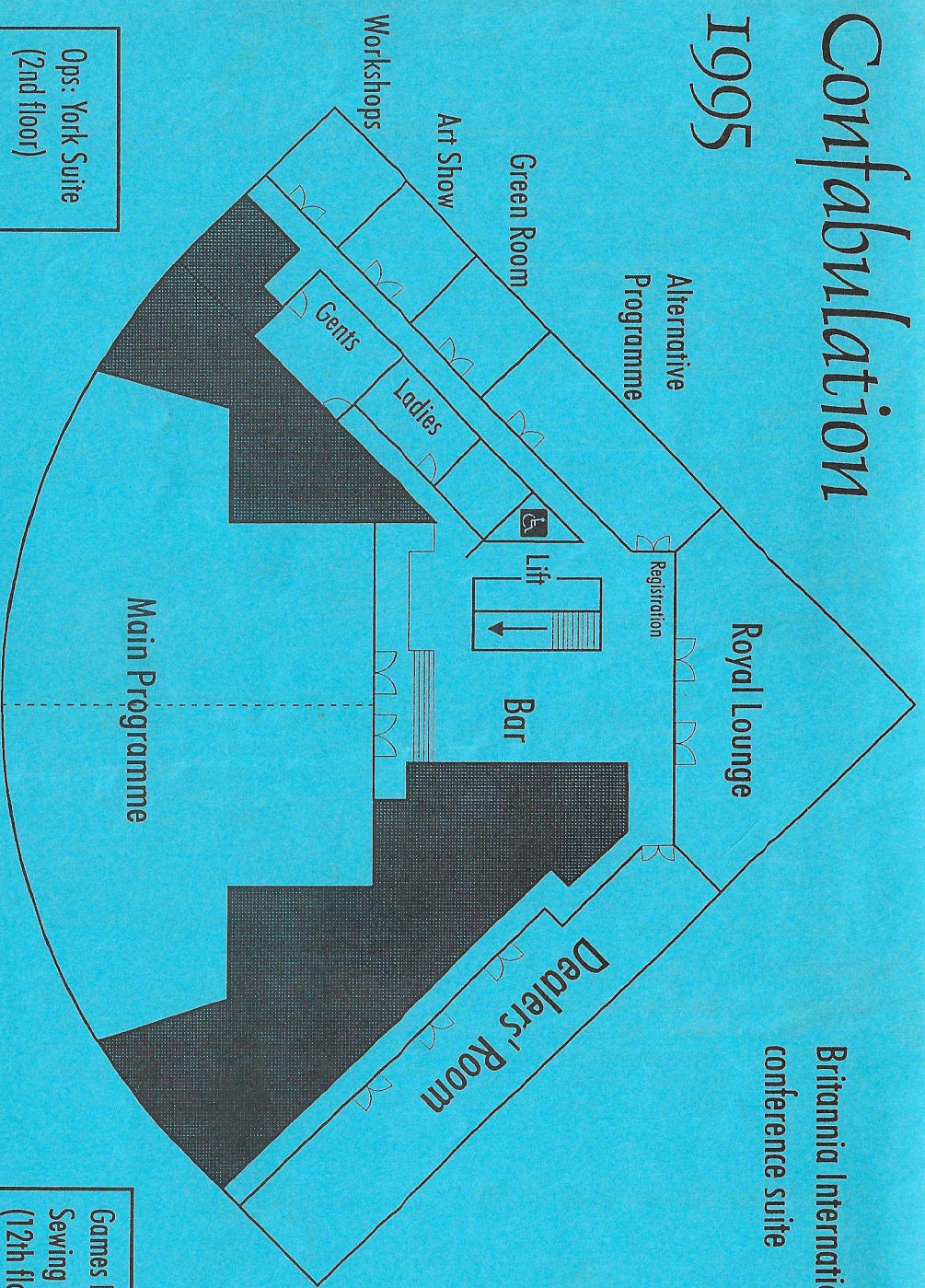
The principal attraction for fans will be **The Thames Barrier**, mentioned in a novel by a Guest of Honour near you. Otherwise, Woolwich is pleasant enough but not worth a special trip.



Confabulation

1995

Britannia International
conference suite



Ops: York Suite
(2nd floor)

Games Room
Sewing Room
(12th floor)